

Mountaineer

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Published in the interest of the 7th Infantry Division and the Fort Carson, Colo., community

January 17, 2002



Vehicle Registration

The trailer by gate 1 has been removed. Vehicle registration will now be done in the guard shack at gate 1 from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Early deadline

The deadline for submissions for the Jan. 25 issue will be at 3 p.m. today.

Feature



Post community remembers Martin Luther King Jr.

See page 16 and 17.

Happenings



Focus on the Family is a great place to spend a dreary day. The Welcome Center has a treasure trove of activities.

See Page 25.

Post Weather hotline:

526-0096

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Photo by Staff Sgt. Tami Lambert

Soldiers from 3rd Squad, 1st Platoon, 43rd Engineer Company, roll a "Humvee" tire during sapper stakes training. Soldiers participated in the training exercise Friday through today. The company was broken into 10 squads who competed against each other in 10 different lane-training events.

Suspicious letter proves hoax ...

Agencies respond successfully

A suspicious letter addressed to the Carson Middle School principal disrupted school Friday.

A Carson Middle School secretary Jan. 10 opened a suspicious letter addressed to the school principal. The envelope, with several one-cent stamps affixed, contained an unknown white powder. In light of recent events, the powder was suspect, but fortunately the letter appears to be a malicious hoax, according to David Soldano, special agent in charge of Criminal Investigation Division.

The school immediately isolated the office and contacted military police, CID, and the post fire department, as well as the Hazardous Material Team and paramedics as a safety precaution. All students and staff followed normal dismissal procedures, according to the District 8 Middle Schools Assistant Superintendent Dave Roudebush.

The envelope, which did not contain a threatening letter or writing, tested negative for hazardous materials in a laboratory analysis. The four staff members who were exposed to its contents also tested negative.

"Our staff handled it very professionally, and it was a great coordinated effort on the part of all the agencies," said Roudebush.

School was closed Friday pending results of laboratory tests, but students and faculty members returned to school Monday, said Roudebush.

The incident is still under investigation by the FBI and CID. To report any suspected hazardous material incidents on post, contact the MP dispatch at 526-2333.

From the Public Affairs Office



Blood Drive scheduled Friday

Post Field house, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Alternate site: Garcia Physical Fitness Center

Tax center opens for service Tuesday

by Staff Sgt. Tami Lambert
Mountaineer staff

Once again tax time is upon us, and as Benjamin Franklin once wrote, "In this world nothing is certain but death and taxes."

Beginning Jan. 22, the Fort Carson Tax Center will provide free tax return preparation to Fort Carson soldiers, military retirees and family members. The center will remain open throughout the tax season, with April 15 being the last day.

Last year, the tax center assisted the Mountain Post community file more than 7,000 federal tax returns, 6,500 state tax returns and obtained approximately \$6,400,000 in tax refunds, according to the legal assistance office.

The tax center is staffed by 15 full-time preparers, four part-time preparers and is supervised by a legal assistance attorney.

All of the tax preparers have gone through tax training and are certified by the Internal Revenue Service's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program.

"The tax center's electronic filing (E-file) capability is the key to providing fast, accurate and secure processing of your tax return," said

Capt. Blaine Markuson, officer in charge of the tax center. "A tax return that is E-filed to the IRS has a lower error rate (less than 1 percent) than a paper return, and the taxpayer can receive proof of IRS acceptance within 48 hours. Refunds due on E-filed returns are processed in half the time of a paper return."

Taxpayers who elect to have their refund directly deposited into their bank account can expect to receive the refund in as little as 10 to 15 days, Markuson said. This compares with the six to eight weeks it will take if you file by mail.

Tax center personnel also provide assistance in the preparation of state income tax returns, answer tax questions and distribute federal and state tax forms.

The Fort Carson Tax Center is located in building 6264, just off Woodfill Road. Its hours of operation are from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays and from 1 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Thursdays. The tax center will also be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the following Saturdays: Feb. 9, Feb. 23, March 9 and April 13.

Filers will need to bring to the Tax Center all copies of their W-2 form and social security

cards for themselves and each dependent. If relevant, filers should also bring the following: Form 1099 INT or DIV, mortgage interest statement, records of child care expenses, records of IRA contributions, information on the sale of stocks, bonds or mutual funds, and the letter about the tax rebate. Everybody should have received the tax rebate letter last summer or early fall. If you no longer have the letter, filers should know how much of a rebate they received. If filers don't know how much they received, the tax center will assist them in finding out the correct information.

"The soldiers working in the Fort Carson Tax Center are dedicated to helping their fellow soldiers save money on tax return preparation with the added bonus of receiving a quick refund," said Markuson. "The free services of the tax center are a valuable benefit of your military service that you should use. There is no reason to pay a fee to a commercial tax preparer or take out an expensive tax refund loan when the tax center can get you a quick refund for free."

If you have questions about what to bring or need more tax information, call the tax center at 524-1012 or 524-1013.

Commander's Corner

Carson encouraged to think safety over holiday weekend



Campbell

“I am once again concerned for the safety of all our soldiers and civilians; especially those who are traveling.”

Monday we celebrate the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and his work on behalf of all Americans. The celebration Fort Carson held on Jan. 10 in his honor was in keeping with the theme for this year's observance, “Remember, Celebrate and Act: A day on not a day off.” Special thanks to all who contributed their time and talents, in particular, Lt. Col. Barrye Price, Master Sgt. Karen Bolden, Dennis Mose and Ensemble and Steven Walker. I encourage those of you who could not attend to look at the story and pictures in the center pages of this week's Mountaineer.

As Monday is a federal holiday, the expectation is that all federal employees will enjoy the day away from their work place. In most circumstances, soldiers will receive Friday off to enjoy a four-day weekend. With this in mind, I am once again concerned for the safety of all our soldiers and civilians; especially

those who are traveling. I was inspired by the success of our Christmas/New Year's holiday safety program, “Operation Holiday Cheer.” Due to all of your efforts, the Mountain Post Team made it through the holiday season with no traffic accidents, injuries or fatalities. All of us must be vigilant over this upcoming extended weekend to replicate that success. Please enjoy the weekend, but remember to be thoughtful and prudent in your trip/activity planning.

This holiday weekend is a good time to take advantage of the winter recreation activities Colorado has to offer. Our Outdoor Recreation Center has a lot of good deals on skiing and snowboarding programs. Additionally, the Air Force has Farish Recreation Center near Woodland Park that we all can use and a program called Rocky Mountain Blue for discounts on skiing and housing at Keystone Ski Resort (see the Happenings Section for details). But you need to be as careful on the slopes as you are on the roads.

The weather this time of year can change in an instant. Over the past two weeks, the weather has gone from unseasonably warm and dry to snowy and back again. In the mountain areas, there has been a good deal of snow. Given these ever-changing conditions, roads can get very hazardous. Make sure your vehicle is in good operating condition and check your belts, hoses, windshield wipers, tires and fluid levels before you hit the road. It's also a good idea to put emergency gear, warm clothes/blankets, food and water in the trunk in case you get trapped in bad weather. Make sure that someone back home knows your travel plans and how to contact you in case of emergency. Most importantly, pay attention to the weather and alter your trip plans as necessary to avoid unnecessary risks.

Already this ski season, Colorado slopes have been the scene of several serious injuries and fatalities.

Oftentimes these incidents are the result of inexperienced skiers not knowing the rules of the slopes; or experienced skiers who chose to ignore them.

If you are inexperienced on the slopes, it's well worth your time to take lessons and learn to ski or snowboard correctly. It is better to take lessons from a professional school than a friend. It is the school's job to make sure you do things correctly and safely. The staff's experience in training may save you an injury or prevent you from injuring someone else.

Always be courteous on the slopes. Yield the right of way. While the view may be spectacular, if you stop to admire it, pull off to the side of the slope. Be aware of what is going on both up-slope and down-slope. Don't pull out in front of someone coming downhill and try to anticipate what skiers who are downhill might do. Avoiding accidents is the responsibility of the skier or snowboarder.

Finally, make sure you have the right clothing and equipment. If you have questions, stop by the outdoor recreation center; the experts can give you sound advice on everything from helmets to eye protection and from boards to bindings. If you don't want to buy equipment, they also have reasonably priced rentals so you can experience skiing or snowboarding without breaking the bank.

The opportunity to enjoy winter sports in Colorado is one of the best things about living here, I encourage you to get out there and enjoy the season with your family and friends, and always remember to play it safe.

Mission first ... people always ...One team. Bayonet!

Maj. Gen. Charles Campbell
*Commanding General
7th Infantry Division and Fort Carson*

Web site offering anti-terrorism training now on line

by Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — A force-protection Web site to assist anti-terrorism officers is now getting more than 12,000 visitors a day.

The Web site, which can be accessed at www.at-awareness.org, helps soldiers meet their annual level-one anti-terrorism, force-protection training. The training is mandatory for soldiers annually and must be taken before traveling overseas.

Not just anyone can log onto the site. It requires an access code that has to be issued by an installation's force protection officer.

“We sent out a message early September telling installations to use the site, and to give us some feedback,” said Kris Cline, senior security specialist for the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations.

“However, after Sept. 11, everybody went to the Web and the server couldn't handle all the people who were trying to use it.”

Currently the contractor is trying to increase availability and major improvements have already been made,

said David Rudd, a force protection action officer for ODCSOPS. At one time the server would crash with 2,000 users, he said. Now there is up to 6,000 people using the Web at one time, Rudd added.

One way to eliminate the problem of having so many people trying to get on the site is to create a product that would allow installations to load the training program on their post Web page, said David Williams, a force protection officer at Fort Gordon, Ga.

Williams said he has not been able to log onto the site because he keeps getting a message that says the site is full, and to try again later.

“The site isn't readily accessible for our troops, but if each installation was responsible for their own Army directed training site, the servers could go from handling 3,000 troops to 300 troops.”

Suggestions like the one Williams made are openly accepted at the Pentagon's Army Anti-terrorism Branch, Rudd said.

“The Web site was created to eliminate some of the work for anti-terrorism officers so they can concentrate

more on their primary mission,” Kline said.

“Training officers are spending two to three days a week on classroom instruction. With the Web site, they can concentrate on the anti-terrorism plan for their installation, battalion or brigade.”

An anti-terrorism plan is a document that outlines what an installation is to do in the case of an emergency, Williams said. It encompasses terrorist attacks, natural disasters, physical security, chemical attacks and bomb threats to name a few scenarios, he said.

More changes to the Web site are being made, Kline said. Family members will also be able to access the site within a year, he said. They will not be required to use the site, only strongly encouraged, Rudd said.

The wording and pictures on the Web will be toned down,” Kline said.

“There will not be terrorists holding guns to people's heads, and military terminology will not be used. We don't want to scare or confuse family members. We just want to remind them to look for signs and pick up on things that are not normal, and report it.”

Soldiers and family members need to keep in mind that force protection is not just the police or intelligence community's problem, Kline said.

The traditional way of giving the required training has been a slide presentation approved by the Training and Doctrine Command, Cline said. The Web-based training is a multiple-choice test that puts soldiers in the middle of deadly scenarios, and gives immediate feedback when the soldier chooses the wrong answers.

The training begins with a statement explaining three ways on how not to be a target of terrorism written by retired Gen. Henry Shelton, the former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

He said by keeping a low profile, being unpredictable and being vigilant, soldiers can deter terrorists. Shelton's advice in the beginning of the training session will lead soldiers to make a number of right decisions while taking the 32-question test.

At the end of each scenario the soldier is given the correct answers. After completing the training a certificate should be printed as proof of the training.

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News

Fort Carson officers selected for battalion commands

The Lieutenant Colonel Command Selection list was released Jan. 10 for fiscal year 2003. Of those selected, four primary selectees work on Fort Carson, as well as five alternate choices.

The fiscal year 2003 command positions will be announced in May.

Primary:

Lt. Col. Cheri A. Provancha, 43rd Area Support Group Deputy Commanding Officer

Lt. Col. Paul D. Welsch, executive officer, 3rd Brigade Combat Team

Lt. Col. Patrick J. Walsh, G2, 7th Infantry Division

Maj. (P) Nathan M. Sassaman, S3, 3rd BCT

Alternate:

Lt. Col. Richard E. Barrowman, 2nd Brigade, 91st Division (Training Support)

Lt. Col. Paul A. Gallo, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 10th Special Forces Group

Lt. Col. Jerome E. Jastrab, HHC, 43rd ASG

Lt. Col. Robert R. Price, executive officer, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment

Lt. Col. Mark M. Turner, 2nd Brig., 91st Div. (TS)

Army changes battalion, brigade commands selection process

WASHINGTON — Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki has approved 13 modifications to the process by which battalion and brigade commanders are selected.

Changes to the Command Selection List process will reportedly increase the number of officers eligible to compete for command. Officers will also be able to decline command without prejudice and compete again at a later date.

“These modifications are in response to issues concerning how we treat officers during the command selection process and those already selected,” said Lt. Col. Kent Burstein, chief of the Command Management Branch for U. S. Total Army Personnel Command. He said the changes “stem” from Army Four-Star Conference notes, Army Research Institute Well-Being survey results and issues raised by the Army Training and Leader Development Panel.

“I am positive that these changes will better serve the officer corps, and improve the timeliness and efficiency of the CSL

system,” Burstein said. “By opening the system up to more individual and command input, we can better serve officers by selecting and slating them into the right command category in the right command.”

Some modifications are internal to the PERSCOM selection and slating process, but most will be noticeable to the field, Burstein said. All but one will take effect immediately. Most will affect both lieutenant colonel and colonel-level commands. They are:

- Extending the Active Federal Commissioned Service requirements for command eligibility to expand the eligible population. This will take effect Aug. 1. Command eligibility will be extended up to three years before an officer’s mandatory retirement date from 26 to 27 years for colonel from 21 to 23 years of service for lieutenant colonel.

- Publish official results of command selection boards as soon as the results are

See Selections, Page 4

Selection

From Page 3

approved to allow additional time for officers to consider their future options. The results will be published alphabetically by category.

- Requiring officers who request a deferment or decline command to obtain an endorsement from the first general officer in their chain of command to provide timely and proper counsel.

- Allowing officers to decline, without prejudice (officers remain eligible to compete for command in future years at their current grade level), up to 30 days after release of the command selection list. Officers can recompile for command in their next eligible year.

- Limiting officers and Major Commands to request command deferments within 60 days after official release of the command slating. If the deferment is approved, the officer will become a deferred principle. If received after 60 days from slate release, officers will not become deferred principals, but will be allowed to recompile for command the next year.

- Extending the validation of the alternate list to the end of the respective fiscal year. The fiscal year 2002 alternate list will remain valid for any fiscal year 2002 command vacancy and the fiscal year 2003 alternate list for any command vacancy in fiscal year 2003.

- Officers on current alternate command lists will be removed from "alternate" status if they are selected as a principal on a subsequent list.

- Alternates who are activated for command, then

subsequently deferred from command, will not receive deferred principal status. However, they will be allowed to recompile for command in their next eligible year.

- Officers on the alternate list who are contacted in accordance with procedures for command activation and are determined to be unavailable for command will remain on the alternate list. However, if contacted a second time for command activation they must accept command or decline command with prejudice (officers lose their eligibility to compete for command at their current grade level).

- Officers will be allowed to remain on the command list pending the Command Review Board results. As most officers are reinstated to the CSL after the CRB results are complete, they will remain on the list, but they will not assume command until they receive a final favorable adjudication from the CRB.

- The Post Board Screening Process will be reviewed to reduce completion time and allow for an earlier release of the selection list and command slate.

- U.S. Army Recruiting and garrison commands

will be separated within the Institutional command category for lieutenant colonel Army Competitive Command boards. Officers will be able to compete in

one or both subcategories to better match officer preference with command vacancies.

- An institutional generalist command category will be added (consisting of non-branch specific institutional commands) that allows all eligible colonels to compete for institutional generalist commands at the colonel ACC level. This will ensure all the most "experienced and qualified" officers are able to compete for institutional category commands, officials said.

Lt. Col. Kent Burstein
chief,

Command Management Branch for U.S.
Total Army Personnel Command

"These modifications are in response to issues concerning how we treat officers during the command selection process and those already selected."

"These issues are important to all officers who desire to command," Burstein said. "I believe that officer satisfaction will dramatically increase, and both the officer and the command will benefit."

Editor's note: Information obtained from U.S. Total Army Personnel Command Public Affairs

From Army News Service.

Military

Soldiers clear ordnance from Afghan airfield

by Sgt. William Patterson

49th Public Affairs Detachment (Airborne)

MAZAR E SHARIF, Afghanistan — A thunderous explosion shattered the stillness of the afternoon as soldiers cleared away ordnance left behind when Taliban forces retreated from the airfield here.

U.S. Army Explosive Ordnance Disposal teams worked through mid-December to clear the Mazar E Sharif airfield. Now they continue to work, in all types of weather, to clear an area north of the airfield.

“We work every day,” said an EOD team leader. “The only time we stopped is when our supply of C4 ran out.”

There are two teams working daily to clear the area surrounding the airfield. Every day more unexploded ordnance are found, according to the team leader.

“Our first day at the Mazar E Sharif airfield we saw the biggest pipe bomb I had ever (seen),” the team leader said. “There were several bombs, each weighing 4,400 pounds.”

Although the airfield is currently clear, the area around it has a long way to go. The teams have handled everything from fuel-air explosives, to fire bombs, to mines, but the soldiers said the most hazardous are the bomb dispenser fuses.

“They have a small amount of explosives in them, but they are the most sensitive,” a team sergeant said.

In the first few weeks of December, the teams used approximately 1,500 blocks of C4 explosive, with 3,000 more blocks on order.

Not all of their effort and time has gone into ensuring the airfield is safe. They did ordnance operations within the city limits as well.

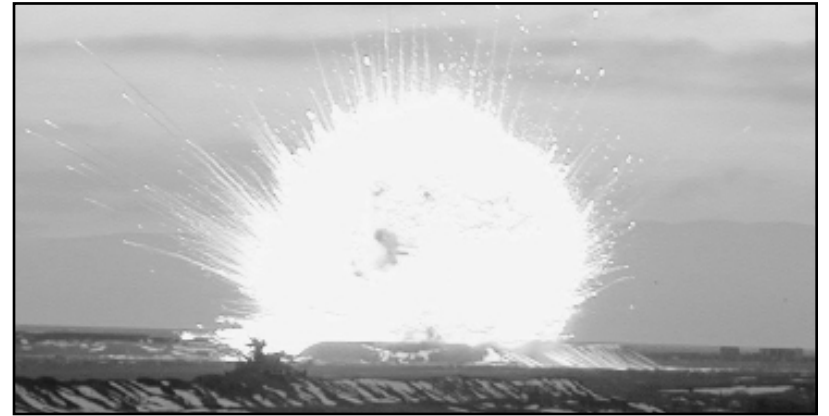
“One day a truck was hauling some munitions, mattresses and rice. The driver attempted to throw his cigarette out the window,” a team specialist said. “The mattresses caught on fire and set off the munitions.” The team went to work on clearing the area.

“Our biggest worry were the locals; they wanted to help,” the team sergeant said. The team was able to clear all munitions from the area and destroyed them later that day.

Once EOD had cleared most of the airfield, the military brought in engineers to begin repairs. The EOD teams cleared most of the runway before the engineers arrived in Afghanistan, an engineer said.

“They had cleared areas around the airfield as well, to help provide a safe working environment for repair operations,” an engineer said.

Just a few days after Dec. 11, the military landed the



Courtesy photo

U.S. Army EOD teams worked through mid-December to clear ordnance from an Afghan airfield.

first humanitarian aid flight since the Sept. 11 attacks. The International Committee of Red Cross brought in some personnel and equipment to set up in Afghanistan.

“Their (EOD) efforts paved the way for humanitarian aid to come into Mazar E Sharif,” the engineer said.

Editor's note: Sgt. William Patterson is a member of the 49th Public Affairs Detachment (Airborne) reporting from Afghanistan.

From Army News Service.

Dining Schedule

Weekday Dining Facilities

A La Carte Facilities

43rd ASG Cheyenne Mountain Inn (building 1040)
3rd BCT Iron Bde (building 2061)
3d ACR CAV House (building 2461)
3rd ACR Butts Army Airfield (building 9612)

Standard Facilities

10th Special Forces Group (A) (building 7481)

Weekday Meal Hours

Mon., Tues., Wed. and Fri.	Thur.
Breakfast 7:30 to 9 a.m.	5:30 to 7 a.m.
Lunch 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.	noon to 1:30 p.m.
Dinner 5 to 6:30 p.m.	4 to 5:30 p.m.

Week of Jan. 19 to Jan. 25

Exceptions

- Butts Army Airfield Dining Facility serves breakfast and lunch meals only.
- Cheyenne Mountain Inn breakfast hours are 7 to 9 a.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.
- 10th SFG (A) meal hours are the same Monday through Friday. It serves no dinner meal on Fridays.

Saturday, Sunday and Training Holiday Dining Facilities

43rd ASG Cheyenne Mtn. Inn (building 1040)
3d BCT Iron Bde (building 2061)
3rd ACR CAV House (building 2461)

Saturday, Sunday and Training Holiday Meal Hours

Brunch	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Supper	3 to 5 p.m.

**Family members are cordially invited to dine at
Fort Carson dining facilities.**

Top Army dining facilities to be honored in Tampa

FORT LEE, Va. - Providing sustenance for battle-weary troops can be a deciding factor in any conflict. Soldiers and civilians from across the globe will converge in late March at Tampa, Fla., — not for battle but rather for recognition as the Army's best food service professionals.

The 2002 Phillip A. Connelly Awards Program will take place March 21 to 24 at the Marriott Waterside Hotel in Tampa.

The program is named in honor of the late Phillip A. Connelly, past president of the International Food Service Executives Association, highly regarded as the driving force behind obtaining IFSEA sponsorship for the Department of the Army's recognition

of excellence in Army food service.

The program is co-sponsored by IFSEA and DoA. IFSEA representatives participate in the evaluation of finalists in five different dining facility categories — Small Garrison, Large Garrison, Active Army Field Kitchen, U.S. Army Reserve and U.S. Army National Guard.

U.S. Army Center of Excellence-Subsistence and IFSEA evaluators traveled the globe over the last year to obtain firsthand knowledge of how Army cooks perform their jobs in both garrison dining facilities and during field operations.

Army cooks and their facilities are evaluated in a number of areas, including food preparation, taste, nutrition,

service and sanitation.

Leading up to the prestigious Joint Services Awards Ceremony, food service soldiers and civilians will have the opportunity to participate in a number of IFSEA-sponsored seminars and special events.

2002 Phillip A. Connelly Winners
Small Garrison Winner — 102nd Military Intelligence Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Essayons, Korea
Small Garrison Runner — up - Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 1st Medical Brigade, 13th Corps Support Command, Fort Hood, Texas

Large Garrison Winner — 95th Adjutant General Battalion (Reception), Fort Sill, Okla.

Large Garrison Runner-up - Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 45th Corps Support Group (Forward), Schofield Barracks, Hawaii

Active Army Field Kitchen Winner — Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1/63rd Armor Battalion, V Corps, Vilseck, Germany

Active Army Field Kitchen Runner-up — Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 659th Maintenance Battalion, 46th Corps Support Group, 1st Corps Support Command, Fort Bragg, N.C.

U.S. Army Reserve Winner — 489th Maintenance Company (GS), 63rd Reserve Support Command, San Bernardino, Calif.

U.S. Army Reserve Runner-up — Headquarters Service Company, 389th Engineer Battalion, 89th Reserve Support Command, Dubuque, Iowa

U.S. Army National Guard Winner — Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 42nd Division Artillery, Massachusetts Army National Guard, Rehoboth, Mass.

U.S. Army National Guard Runner-up — 321st Signal Company, Nevada Army National Guard, Carson City, Nev.

From the Fort Lee Public Affairs news release.

Greenback

Tax season coming soon: W-2 forms are being mailed



Ketz

**by Capt. Brian J. Ketz
4th Finance Battalion**

Defense Finance and Accounting Service mailed W-2 forms Jan. 15. Soldiers will receive one W-2 form for active duty wages if they were on active duty by December.

W-2 forms for Army National Guard were bulk-mailed to the soldier's U.S.

Property and Fiscal Office in December. W-2 forms for the U.S. Army Reserves were mailed to the soldier's home address of record Jan. 15. W-2 forms for soldiers who separated during the calendar year 2001 will be mailed to the soldier's home address of record during January.

West Point Cadets' W-2 forms will be bulk mailed to the U.S. Military Academy for distribution. W-2 forms for those cadets separated (released) from the USMA will be mailed to the cadet's home address. In the event the separated cadet had entered active duty, the W-2 forms will be mailed to the soldier's current servicing finance office.

Soldiers who retired or separated during 2001 were mailed their W-2 forms via self-mail to their address of record Jan. 15.

There are several cases where a soldier will receive more than one W-2 form. Here is a quick breakdown on some of those possible situations. Please contact your local servicing finance office for

more details.

Reserve component members who had a prior year debt collected during calendar year 2001 will be provided a tax certificate to be used when filing their tax return. The tax certificate may be used to substantiate a tax credit when completing a tax return. The tax certificate was mailed Jan. 15. Questions concerning the applicability of the tax certificate in regards to the tax filing status of an individual member should be directed to the Internal Revenue Service.

If DFAS-IN paid a student loan on behalf of a soldier, a separate 2001 W-2 form will be issued by DFAS-IN. W-2 forms for soldiers who have already separated will be mailed to their home addresses; for those still on active duty, W-2 forms were mailed to the soldiers' servicing finance office Jan. 15. ARNG W-2 forms will be bulk mailed to the soldier's USPFO no later than Jan. 15. For Reserve component members, W-2 forms were mailed to the soldier's home of record Jan. 15. Remember that student loan payment and claims payments are taxable income to the soldier.

Soldiers who made a Do-It-Yourself move during the 2001 calendar year will receive a W-2 form from A Detachment, 4th Finance Battalion. Soldiers should be advised that both their regular wage W-2 form and their DITY W-2 forms must be included when filing their tax returns. If a member is in a student loan repayment program and made a DITY move, separate W-2 forms will be issued.

Soldiers who claimed more than one state of resi-

dence during 2001, W-2 forms issued from DFAS-IN, will have two states listed on the four-part form. If tax withholding was reported for more than one state, the total federal, Social Security and Medicare wages will appear on each part of the W-2 form but the state information will be split between the parts.

Remember, do not combine taxes withheld amounts on the multiple parts of the W-2 forms. A second W-2 form is produced only when tax withholding are reported for more than two states. Only one state will appear on the three-part W-2 forms.

If a soldier received a GI Bill refund, the refund increases taxable income because the soldier's taxable income had been automatically reduced earlier when the GI Bill deduction occurred on the soldier's monthly leave and earning statement.

If a soldier had Combat Tax Exclusion wages for 2001, the net taxable wages (i.e. total 2001 wages less CTE wages) will appear in Block 1 on the W-2 form. Soldiers still serving in any area designated as a combat zone will not be charged penalties or interest for under withholding. These soldiers are also entitled to an automatic extension of 180 days for the last day served in the combat zone for filing their taxes. The date of entry and date of exit from the combat zone should be written in red ink at the top of their tax returns.

Bottom line — it is recommended you verify every number on your W-2 form prior to filing your taxes. If for some reason you feel it is incorrect or find an error, seek guidance from your chain of command or servicing finance detachment.

Military Briefs

The commanding general's Newcomers' Briefing has been changed to the third Wednesday of each month. The briefing is conducted at McMahon Theater from 1:15 to 4 p.m.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Office is offering a new class for civilian employees Jan. 24 entitled "EEO is for Everyone." This class covers many of the topics that are of vital concern to both supervisors and employees. The class will discuss EEO complaint processing and dispel many misconceptions. Also, on showcase are the dynamic training and mediation programs. Other programs will be discussed to include affirmative action and disability awareness. EEO classes are conducted from 1 to 4 p.m. in the Cedar Room at the Family Readiness Building. Because seating is limited for this class, priority will go to Fort Carson Appropriated fund/Non appropriated fund employees. Registration should have already been completed for this class and participants will be notified prior to the class if their registration has been approved. For more information, contact your training coordinator, or call EEO at 526-4413.

The Army Career and Alumni Program is offering an Information Workshop Feb. 7 for the U.S. Department of Labor, National Apprenticeship Program. The workshop will be from 12:45 to 2 p.m. in the ACAP classroom, building 1219. To attend the workshop sign up at ACAP. For more information, call 526-1002 or 526-0640.

Claims against the Estate of ...

With deepest regrets to the family of Staff Sgt. Shannon D. Jorgenson, deceased. Anyone having claims or indebtedness to his estate should contact 2nd Lt. Christopher Gibbons at 526-3124.

Effective immediately, soldiers scheduled to attend Special Forces Assessment and Selection training will not be deleted, deferred or otherwise prevented from attending the scheduled training. Any requests for exception to this requirement must be endorsed by the first general officer in the soldier's chain of command. Soldiers who volunteer for SFAS prior to receipt of assignment notification will be deferred to allow for SFAS attendance. Assignment of SFAS graduates to the Special Forces Qualification Course will take precedence over any assignment conflict. For more information, call (703) 325-2450.

Army Career and Alumni Program is hosting a job fair Feb. 8, in building 1219, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. About 35 employers will be on hand to answer questions. For more information, call ACAP at 526-1002 or 526-0640.

A Service Corps of Retired Executives Seminar will be held Feb. 21 in building 1118, room 182, from 8 a.m. to noon. Registration is at the Army Career and Alumni Program Career Center. Anyone interested should be registered by close of business Feb. 20.



Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers

BOSS Executive Council meets the first Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. at the Post Physical Fitness Center, building 1829. The post BOSS meeting, for BOSS representatives, meets the second Thursday of each month at Christopher's from 1 to 3 p.m. For information, call 524-BOSS.

Billets off-limits to visitors

Due to the current situation, there are to be no visitors — civilians or family members — in the billets until further notice from the commanding general, according to Command Sgt. Maj. George Ponder, Fort Carson and 7th Infantry Division command sergeant major.

There will be a \$15 fee for the SCORE Packet.

The Army is looking for soldiers to serve on attache duty. The U.S. Army Attache Management Division is seeking active duty enlisted soldiers in the grades of E-4(P) to E-8 to serve in the Defense Attache System as operations noncommissioned officers. Operations NCOs serve as soldier-diplomats at Defense Attache Offices located in U.S. embassies in more than 100 countries worldwide. NCOs considering an attache assignment must be on active duty, qualify for a top secret security clearance, have a GT score of 115 or higher, a CL score of 120 or higher, type 40 words a minute and possess at least some computer skills. Soldiers must also score 100 or higher on the Defense Language Aptitude Battery. All family members must be U.S. citizens and meet medical standards for the country of assignment. For more information, contact Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Williams at (301) 677-2134 ext. 2633, DSN 622-2134, Ext. 2633, or via e-mail at jeff.williams@us.army.mil.

The CID is recruiting for new special agents. Hard-working soldiers interested in conducting felony-level criminal investigations and able to meet the prerequisites should apply. Some of the prerequisites are:

- Be a U.S. citizen
- Be of suitable character and able to obtain a top secret clearance
- No record of mental or emotional disorders
- No history of unsatisfactory credit
- No convictions by civilian or military courts
- Minimum age of 21 years
- Minimum of two years military service
- Minimum GT score of 110
- Minimum of 60 semester hours of college
- At least six months of military police or one year civilian police experience. (If all other prerequisites are met and if a soldier's unit commander is willing, soldiers can achieve the police experience prerequisites by completing a six-month internship with CID as an attached soldier.)

Soldiers interested in applying should e-mail Special Agent David Schumann at David.Schumann@carson.army.mil for information and instructions on the application procedures.

A "Troops to Teacher" adviser is available at the Mountain Post Training and Education Center, building 1117, room 321, Fridays from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Troops to Teachers was created in 1994 to help departing servicemembers obtain a second career in teaching during the downsizing. The program has placed more than 4,000 retirees in teaching positions since that time. Call Virginia Frazier at 526-5544 for more information about the program.

For official travel services, Carlson-Wagonlit Travel, in building 1012 on Long Street, is open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and until 3 p.m. on training holidays.

Travelers are reminded to bring three copies of travel orders when picking up tickets for official travel. Soldiers and family members must have one original and one copy of their "travelopes" and three copies of each order, to include amendments, for overseas permanent changes of station. If you cannot pick up your tickets in person, you can fax a copy of orders to 526-1142 or 576-5262 for issuance of an E-ticket.

Please call 576-5188 to confirm receipt of faxed orders. Tickets will not be issued without orders. If you do not use your ticket, you must bring it and two copies of your orders. If you were issued an E-ticket and did not travel, you still must bring in two copies of orders to process a refund for the unused ticket.

Hours of operation for the Central Issue Facility. Regular business hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 6:30 to 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Fridays 6:30 to 10:30 a.m. Initial Issue/Partial Issue/DX: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 6:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m. Fridays: 6:30 to 10:30 a.m. Full/Partial Turn-Ins: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. C/C, SOC, ROS: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call 526-6477.

The 3rd Cavalry Museum will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday until further notice. The museum will be closed Mondays and federal holidays, except Memorial and Veterans Days. Group tours and individual visits from civilians without a valid government identification card can be arranged with coordination through the Public Affairs Office or by contacting the museum at 526-1404 or 526-2028 24 hours in advance of the planned visit. The museum staff apologizes for any inconveniences the schedule may create.

Green to Gold Briefing: Army ROTC conducts a Green to Gold briefing every Tuesday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in room 126 of the Education Center. If eligible, you may get the chance to earn a bachelor's degree and become a second lieutenant. If you have questions, contact Capt. Adam Sell at 262-3236. No appointment is necessary to attend these briefings.

Special Forces briefings are held Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. at Grant Library. You can apply for SF training as an E-3, but cannot begin training until you are an E-4. For more information, call 524-1461 or 524-1462.

The American Red Cross is there in times of need. In an emergency, call (877) 272-7337 for assistance in reaching family members. Be prepared to provide the servicemember's full name, social security number, branch of service, rank and military unit. For other services and questions, call the local Red Cross chapter at 526-2311.

Soldiers are reminded to come to the Community Housing Referral and Relocation Services Office, building 7301, to update waiting list information every six months. If you are on the waiting list and haven't updated your information in the last 60 days, do so right away. It is important that housing has good contact information in order to offer you on-post housing. For information, call 526-2322.

Editor's note: The deadline for submitting "Briefs" to the Mountaineer is 5 p.m. Friday before publication date.

Sports & Leisure

The following events are scheduled at the Peterson Air Force Base fitness center:

A five-kilometer fun run is scheduled for Friday at 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$2.

A jackpot-stairmaster competition is scheduled for Wednesday inside the Mt. Cardio room from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost is \$1.

A jackpot-stairmaster competition is scheduled for Jan. 25 inside the Colorado room from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Cost is \$1.

Tae Kwon Do is scheduled on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6 to 7 p.m. for ages 7 to 13 and from 7 to 8 p.m. for 14 year olds and up.

Personal trainers are available. For information, call 556-4462.

Questions about any of the above programs can be directed to the Special Programs staff at 556-1515.

Community

Army Family Action Plan ...

Giving Fort Carson community members a voice in military concerns

by Catherine Torres and
Nancy Montville

Army Community Service

The Army Family Action Plan is a grassroots level process that identifies issues of the global Army family. The AFAP is a program that gives everyone in the Army the opportunity to influence his or her own quality of life and standard of living. The AFAP process is designed to ensure maximum participation of America's Army family at all levels of the chain of command. This includes all military ranks, civilian



employees, youths and retirees.

AFAP conferences are held annually at Army installations and communities throughout the world. The AFAP process begins at the unit level and is directed by installation AFAP coordinators. Members from units on the installation participate in the conference and identify, develop, and prioritize unit/community/installation quality of life issues.

Most issues introduced at a conference are specific to that installation. Research shows that

95 percent of issues raised at these conferences can be worked toward resolution at the local installation level. Issues beyond the scope of an installation commander and requiring higher level authority go forward to the Major Command.

The Fort Carson AFAP Conference covered the following issues:

1. Inadequate clothing allowance
2. Indefinite re-enlistment incentives
3. Reconfiguration of the Basic Allowance for housing to consider bedroom requirements
4. Family care providers

For more information, contact the Installation Community Life and Outreach Service Coordinator, Nancy Montville at 526-0460.

MWR's Fort Carson Ski Day offers discounts, fun

by David Lachman

Recreation Program specialist Directorate of Community Activities

Vertical drops! Fat boys! Carving skis! It's a world of excitement on the slopes at a price you just can't beat ... Who said skiing was a rich man's sport?

Whether you're a certified ski bum in search of the world's best powder run, or a parent with a desire to introduce your kids to the world of snow skiing, this year's Fort Carson's annual Ski Day

Celebration is for you.

Morale, Welfare and Recreation combines deep powder with deep discounts to create a fun filled day of winter recreation for the Fort Carson community family.

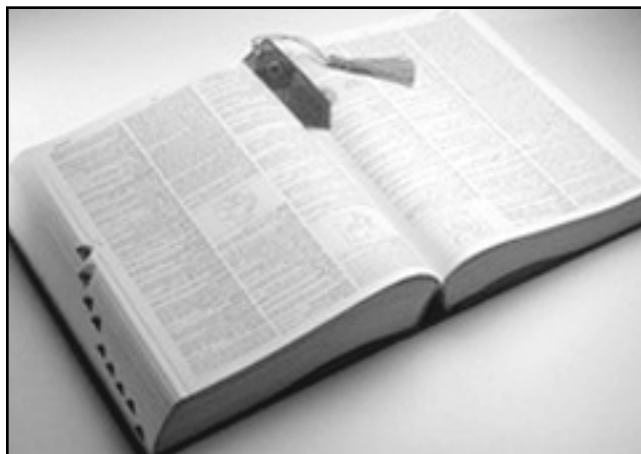
This year's ski day will be at "Ski Cooper," Feb. 1. The package includes an all-day lift ticket, continental breakfast and after-ski party with snacks and prize giveaways.

Prices for adults are \$27, children ages 6 to 14 \$16. Transportation is also available, at half off the

normal fee, for only \$5.

Ski rental equipment for this event is available at half off the regular rental fee at MWR's Outdoor Recreation, building 2429. For information call 526-1993.

The Ski Day ticket package, transportation, information on Ski Cooper, maps and/or directions to the resort can be obtained at MWR's Information, Tickets/and Registration office, building 1510, 526-5366.



Chapel

Protestant Sunday School 2002 — Soldiers' Memorial Chapel is sponsoring a new Sunday adventure each week at 9:30 a.m. Children will enter the fun world of firelight-crafts, activities, drama and building new relationships, while experiencing the world of the Bible. Children must be at least 4 years old to register. Registration is ongoing Sunday mornings at Soldiers' Memorial Chapel, building 1500. Volunteer positions are available. For information, contact Dennis Scheck, 526-5626.

Youth of the Chapel — Activities for Protestant and Catholic Middle School and High School Youth take place each Sunday at 1:30 p.m. at Soldiers' Memorial Chapel. Catholic youth classes meet at 10:45 a.m. Sunday at Soldiers' Memorial Chapel.

Fort Carson AWANA Club: Making the Gospel fun. AWANA shapes children's lives with a combination of good clean fun, Bible memory and spiritual teaching. AWANA is an international nondenominational organization dedicated to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with young people. The group is similar to scouting and participants wear uniforms, earn badges and are motivated through awards. Meetings are held Thursdays from 5:15 to 7 p.m. Spaces are available for adults who want to be ministry leaders. The leadership training is free. For information, contact Susan Webb, 538-9306.

Chapel Schedule

ROMAN CATHOLIC					
Day	Time	Service	Chapel	Location	Contact Person
M-W-F	noon	Mass	Healer	Evans Army Hospital	Fr. Gagliardo/526-5769
Tues., Wed., Thurs.	noon	Mass	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez	Chap. Stahl/526-5769
Saturday	5 p.m.	Mass	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez	Chap. Stahl/526-5769
Sunday	8 a.m.	Mass	Prussman	Magrath & Titus	Chap. Stahl/526-5769
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Mass	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez	Chap. Stahl/526-5769
Sunday	10:45 a.m.	CCD	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez	Jim Sciegell/526-5744
Sunday	11 a.m.	Mass	Healer	Evans Army Hospital	Fr. Gagliardo/526-7386
Sunday	12:15 p.m.	Mass	Provider	Barkeley & Ellis	Chap. Stahl/526-5769
EASTERN ORTHODOX					
Sunday	8 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez	Chap. Olson/526-5772
PROTESTANT					
Sunday	9 a.m.	Protestant	Healer	Evans Army Hospital	Chap. Simmons/526-7387
Sunday	9 a.m.	Protestant	Provider	Barkeley & Ellis	Chap. Drake/526-4206
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Protestant	Veterans'	Magrath & Titus	Chap. Atkins/524-1822
Sunday	11 a.m.	Protestant	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez	Chap. Kincaid/526-8011
Sunday	11 a.m.	Prot./Gospel	Prussman	Barkeley & Prussman	Chap. Pair/526-2811
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Sun. School	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez	Dr. Scheck/526-5626
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Sun. School	Prussman	Barkeley & Prussman	Chap. Pair/526-2811
Sunday	6:30 p.m.	PYOC	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez	Ms. Scheck/524-1166
LITURGICAL PROTESTANT					
Sunday	10:45 a.m.	Protestant	Provider	Barkeley & Ellis	Chap. Bauer/526-5279
JEWISH					
For information and a schedule of Jewish Sabbath services, call the U.S. Air Force Academy Cadet Chapel at 333-2636.					
WICCA					
2nd and 4th Tuesday	6:30 p.m.		Spiritual Fitness Center	Barkeley & Ellis	Ms. Costantino-Mead/ (303) 428-7703
For additional information, contact the Installation Chaplain's Office, building 1550, at 526-5209. Normally, free child care is available during on-post worship services.					

Daily Bible readings: In order to assist in regular scripture reading, the following scriptures are recommended. These scriptures are part of the common daily lectionary which is designed to present the entire Bible over a three-year cycle.

Friday — Psalms 46 & Genesis 1-4

Saturday — Psalms 47 & Genesis 5-9

Sunday — Psalms 48 & Genesis 10-13

Monday — Psalms 49 & Genesis 14-17

Tuesday — Psalms 50 & Genesis 18-21

Wednesday — Psalms 51 & Genesis 22-25

Thursday — Psalms 52 & Genesis 26-30

The Army Cycle Of Prayer — Each week the Office of the Army Chief of Chaplains will highlight Army units, the Army at large, the nation and religious organizations to focus prayer. You are invited to join with the chaplain community and pray for these individuals and organizations. Please pray this week for the following: **Unit:** For the soldiers and leaders of the 1st Infantry Division ("Big Red One"), forward deployed in Wuerzburg, Germany. **Army:** For the soldiers, noncommissioned officers and officers of the Infantry Branch. Ask God to provide leaders that will decisively train for and lead their units to victory in battle. **State:** For all soldiers and families from the state of Kansas. Pray also for Gov. Bill Graves, the state legislators and municipal officials of the Jayhawk state. **Nation:** For the memory and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Pray that God would lead us to realize King's vision of a land where constitutional freedoms are a reality for all, and where civility and nonviolent change become a way of life for our citizens. **Religious:** For the soldiers and families from the Moravian Church. Pray also for all military chaplains endorsed to serve on behalf of this community of faith.

For more information on the Army Cycle of Prayer, or to pray for items from previous weeks, visit the cycle's Web site at www.usarmychaplain.com.

Chaplain's Corner

Unity: the tie that binds communities together

by Chap. (Maj.) James Drake
3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is marked on the calendar as Jan. 18 to 25. What does that mean for us as Christians, soldiers and Americans — to be united, to have unity?

Paul, in his letter to the Romans (15:11), discusses the need for “unity” in the early Christian community, imploring them to accept one another into fellowship.

When we join the Army, we are immediately assigned to units, squads, platoons, troops or companies. We are bound together in the Army to be separated only by retirement, release from the Army or death.

The preamble to the Constitution of the United States reads: “We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the blessing of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution ...”

Notice the theme of unity. The dictionary defines unity as the quality or state of not being multiple;

oneness; or a condition of harmony; accord or continuity without deviation or change (as in purpose or action).

From birth we are thrust into units — families, extended families, play groups, school classes, sports teams, residents of communities, states, clubs, sororities and the list is endless. Even the most reclusive of individuals will at some time become, by default, a member of that section of society grouped together and called hermits or recluses. We are all unitized in some way, even if involuntarily.

Since Sep. 11 there have been numerous calls by national and religious leaders to bind us together as a nation. We responded positively in most cases, although there have been isolated cases of bigotry and discord. We have marched, sang, donated, shared, suffered, rejoiced, worshiped, grieved and worked together in ways beyond belief. All these actions have occurred

and continue without regard to gender, race or creed.

As soldiers and family members, as a people of faith, as Americans, we are tied together.

We will never leave some of the units we are part of and we will be incorporated into others over the passing of time. Almost every union we are part of contributes to the establishment, improvement and sustainment of our life style. The effect and the amount they make is dependent upon our commitment and willingness to contribute, both physically and spiritually, to the union and its growth.

This week as we contemplate our union with our fellow soldier, Americans and

people of faith, we should meditate on continuing to promote the type of unity we have so recently experienced.

May God bless each of us and the unions that bind us together.



Mountain Lifeline

Animal bites a serious problem on military posts

by **Spc. Sheila Hamlett**
Veterinary Services
Fort Knox, Ky.

FORT KNOX, Ky. — Does he bite? This is a question almost every dog owner has heard at least once. The answer every dog owner should give is, “yes.”

Any animal with a mouth has the potential to bite someone. Will it bite? Probably not. But even the friendliest dog in the world can bite if it is injured or frightened.

Every year in the United States, dogs bite approximately 4.7 million people, mostly children. Only about 1 million of those require medical treatment. However, approximately 10 to 20 people die annually from dog bites.

Animal bites are a serious issue on military posts. Every person who is bitten by an animal and treated at a military clinic or hospital fills out a bite report. The report is then sent to the post veterinary treatment facility, where the animal is tracked down and put into quarantine. The health of the animal is the main concern after the bite victim has been treated. It is important to make sure the animal does not have

rabies, which is 100 percent fatal.

Most bites are not from an aggressive animal. Many dogs may bite because small children pull the dog's hair, ears and tail. Some dogs will tolerate it for a while, but if a parent is not around to tell the child to stop, the dog may bite. Never leave a child unsupervised with any pet, for the child's safety and the animal's.

It is important to teach children to always ask permission from an animal's owner before petting it. They should also learn to never disturb an animal while it is eating, sleeping or caring for its offspring. By educating your child at a young age, you will decrease the child's chance of being bitten.

Many times people bring an animal into the clinic because it suddenly started to act aggressive and was snapping at family members. Many times behavioral changes indicate a medical problem. Because the animal does not feel well, it wants to be left alone. In most cases the animals are back to normal once they feel better.

Never get between two animals that are fighting. You are almost guaranteed to be bitten. In the heat of the moment,

the animals are not paying attention to what they are actually biting.

Are some dogs more likely to bite than others? Not necessarily. As stated earlier, any animal can bite. Some dog breeds, however, do have the potential to do more damage when they bite.

According to a study done by the Humane Society of the United States, one third of deaths caused by dogs were attributed to pit bulls, Rottweilers, German shepherds, Siberian huskies and Alaskan malamutes. The rest of the deaths were attributed to other breeds and mixes.

Some of these are breeds that most people would not consider aggressive. Labrador retrievers, Great Danes, Saint Bernards, cocker spaniels and even the little Yorkshire terrier have each chalked up at least one fatality.

The important thing to remember is to be careful around all animals.



Always watch your children and teach them to treat animals with respect. If any animal — especially a stray or wild animal — bites you, go to the emergency room to fill out a bite report and be treated. Your health is too important to risk.

Editor's note: Reprinted from the Fort Knox, Ky., *Inside The Turret*.

Community Events

Family Readiness Center

The Financial Readiness Debt Management Program is available to help active duty, family members, retirees and Department of Defense civilians with debt problems. For information, call 526-0449.

Free Infant Massage Class — Did you know that regular infant massage not only soothes and relaxes your baby but also encourages deeper and longer sleep, aids in digestion, improves circulation, stimulates brain development, decreases colic and more. The Family Advocacy Program will provide this free class Tuesday, Jan. 29 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Classes are held at the Family University, building 1161. Limited free child care is available for older siblings. Call 526-4590 to register.

The Fort Carson Playgroup, which meets 10 a.m. to noon Fridays, is open to all military families. The group meets at Family University, building 1161. For information, call 526-4590.

Puppet Troupe volunteers needed — Volunteers are needed for the Family Advocacy Programs Puppet Troupe. This puppet troupe performs at local elementary schools to teach children how to keep themselves safe from abduction and abuse. No training or experience required. Complete training is provided and childcare is available. For information, call 526-4590.

Boot Camp for New Dads — Brown bag meeting with free pizza takes place every Wednesday from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. at the Family University, building 1161. *Module I*, Becoming a Dad; *Module II*, Caring for Baby; *Module III*, Hands-on Training; *Module IV*, Caring for Mom and graduation. For information, call 526-4590.

Miscellaneous

The U.S. Army's Community and Family Support Center's Entertainment Division Presents Bravo Dinner Theatre's rendition of the Complete Works of Shakespeare Feb. 6 at the Elkhorn Conference Center. Cost for the gourmet dinner buffet and show is \$18.95. Children 3 to 9 years old cost \$9.95 and children under 2 are free. The dinner buffet begins at 6 p.m. and a cash bar will be available until 10 p.m. Advance ticket sales end Feb. 4 at noon. For information or reservations, call 576-6646 or go to www.ftcarson.com.

DeVry Institute of Technology will have a representative available at the Education Center Wednesdays from 11 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Those interested are encouraged to visit the office to learn more about DeVry's career-focused educational approach and degree offerings in business and technology. DeVry's programs are offered locally or online. For more information about DeVry, visit www.cs.devry.edu.

The "Pikes Peak Family Conections" will be holding a Volunteer Orientation and Training Saturday from 1 to 3 p.m. at 2132 E. Bijou, Suite 2E. P.P.F.C. hosts the Nutruring Program, a psycho-educational parenting class designed to strengthen parent-child relationships to prevent child abuse and neglect. Volunteers are needed to assist human service professionals in the presentation of the curriculum to the families. For more information, attend the orientation or call Lindsay Peters at (719) 444-4517.

DECAM Christmas Tree Recycling Program — The Directorate of Environmental Compliance and Management Wildlife Office will recycle Christmas trees this year. The trees will be used to improve wildlife habitat for small animals and to improve fish habitats in our ponds and reservoirs. The tree collection point will be at the corner of Wickersham

Boulevard and Chiles Avenue, just inside Gate 3 and across the street from the DECAM Recycle Center. Another location is also being planned and will be announced shortly. The stations will run through the January. Remove all ornaments and tinsel before dropping off your tree. Call the DECAM Wildlife Office for additional information, 579-9094.

The Epilepsy Foundation of Colorado will offer a job search and career change workshop for persons with epilepsy Thursday and Feb. 15, 9 a.m. to noon, at Easter Seals, 225 S. Academy, Ste. 104. Cost is \$10 to cover testing. Program includes Myers-Briggs and Self Assessment testing, new techniques in resume developments, interviewing techniques and how to find jobs for networking. For information or to register call (888)378-9779.

Tax time is here — On Jan. 22, Maj. Gen. Charles Campbell, commander, 7th Infantry Division and Fort Carson. will be presiding over an opening ceremony for the installation tax center, building 6264.

DTI's toner and inkjet cartridge recycling program is a great way to help support military personnel and the Colorado Springs community. DTI will donate a portion of the proceeds from toner and inkjet cartridges to Colorado Springs Utilities "Community Focus Fund." DTI has recycling bins throughout most of the buildings on post, and will schedule pickups every two weeks or as needed. If Fort Carson personnel and their families would like to participate, they may also donate their toner and inkjet cartridges from home. Proceeds from the toner and inkjet cartridge recycling program go toward food baskets, clothing, toys and financial aid, along with other items to help support the local military. If you have a location on base that needs a recycling bin, call DTI at 632-0525.

Road closures will be as follows: the main con-

Relocation Readiness offers more than just moving tips

The Relocation Readiness Program offers a variety of cultural mediation services to assist multicultural family members in dealing with problems that arise during the immigration and cultural adaptation processes. Their goal is to help them feel more comfortable and self-sufficient in their new environment. These services are provided free to all members of the Mountain Post Team.

Immigration and Naturalization Assistance works closely with the Immigration and Naturalization Service in Denver to provide up-to-date information on INS policies and procedures. Most INS forms are stocked. Soldiers and family members with complex questions are scheduled to meet with an INS agent who visits the post on a quarterly basis. This free service is available through Army Community Services for family member INS issues only. 4th Personnel Services Battalion helps soldiers with their paperwork (526-1906). To schedule an appointment, call 526-4590.

English as a Second Language classes are held at ACS every Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Free child care is provided with advance reservations. Four levels of instruction are provided. To register for these classes, call 526-4590.

German Support Group. Do you miss speaking in your native tongue or are you feeling a little homesick? Join the German Support Group, which meets on the first and third Wednesday of every month from 10 a.m. to noon at the Family Connection, located in the Friendship House, building 1354, on Berkeley Avenue. Children are welcome to attend with their parents. For more information, call Kara Varner, 526-1070.

Other ethnic support. Several Korean spouses have expressed an interest in forming a Korean Support Group. If you are interested in helping or want a support group for your ethnic group, call Liz Droll, 526-4590.

crete tank trail, south of O'Connell Boulevard, by building 8030, through Feb. 1.

The Peterson Air Force Base Chapel will conduct a Commemorative Interfaith Worship Service in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. tomorrow from 11 a.m. to noon. The keynote speaker is retired Chap. (Maj.) Alex Person, National Manager of Ethnic Ministries for Focus on the Family. The 1230 Gospel Service Choir will provide musical support. All attendees are invited to the reception immediately following. For information contact Capt. Roosevelt Boyland, 554-8627 or Chap. (Capt.) Steve Dabbs, 556-4442.

Fort Carson will begin collecting old telephone directories for recycling in January. There will be a roll off dumpster at the Recycle Center, building T-155, located at the corner of Wickersham Boulevard and Chiles Avenue. Collection begins when new phone books are delivered. For questions, call Nick Pallotto, 526-5898 or Burla Martin, 526-0973.

The Genealogical Society of Colorado Springs is offering free beginning classes specializing in African-American Genealogy. The afternoon classes will be taught at the Penrose Public Library and the Family History Center Feb. 9, 16 and 23. To register or for more information call Candice K. McKnight at 227-1959 or 520-9784.

Fort Carson invites the public to learn about environmental restoration projects on post at quarterly Restoration Advisory Board meetings. RAB meetings offer informative presentations on a variety of ongoing cleanup projects. For information or to join, contact Jim Henderson at 526-8001.

The "Sept. 11th Victim Compensation Fund" is available to all those who have been either injured or lost a family member in the terrorist acts and experiencing difficulty securing financial assistance. In addition, a nonprofit group, Trial Lawyers Care, will provide an attorney free of charge to any eligible victim who wishes to file a claim for compensation under the fund. For more information go to www.911LawHelp.org or call (888)780-8637.

Annual leave needed

Annual leave donors are needed for:

Carolyn Harris, an employee of the Dental Activity, needs annual leave donations to help cover her absence due to the exhaustion of her available paid leave.

Candice Miller, an employee of DENTAC, needs annual leave donations to help cover her absence due to the exhaustion of her available paid leave.

For information about the above-listed DENTAC employees, contact Bonny Edwards, 526-2006/2877.

Sharon Trigg, an employee of the Medical Department Activity, needs annual leave donations to help cover her absence due to the exhaustion of her available paid leave.

Betty Meek, an employee of MEDDAC, needs annual leave donations to help cover her absence due to the exhaustion of her available paid leave.

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DeeAnne K. Lau, an employee of MEDDAC, needs annual leave donations to help cover her absence due to the exhaustion of her available paid leave.

Zarene DeKraai, an employee of MEDDAC, needs annual leave donations to help cover her absence due to the exhaustion of her available paid leave.

For information about the above-listed MEDDAC employees, contact Ruben Espinoza, 526-7246.

Civilian employees willing to donate annual leave under the "Voluntary Leave Transfer Program" should refer to Fort Carson Regulation 690-4. Leave donation forms may be obtained from administrative/personnel sections. Completed forms should be forwarded to leave-approving officials for approval, then to the customer service representative at the Directorate of Resource Management.

Tribute to Martin Luther King Jr. ...

Fort Carson community members celebrate King's birthday



by Spc. Roy Gomez
14th Public Affairs Detachment

He didn't cry when he was born, but when he did make noise, the world stopped and listened.

The 7th Infantry Division, United States Army Garrison and the Fort Carson Equal Opportunity Office organized a performance with different forms of entertainment such as songs, music and speeches about Martin Luther King Jr., to help people remember and celebrate his birth and life accomplishments Jan. 10 at McMahon Theater.

King is the only American who wasn't president to have his birthday declared a national holiday. His views and civic actions continue to shape the direction of today's society 34 years after his death. His speeches, even excerpts of them, are recognized by people of all races and generations.

"King has become an icon, not only in our nation, but throughout the world as advocate for civil rights," said Lt. Col. Barrye L. Price, commander, 4th Personnel Services Battalion.

Steven Walker, a 7-year-old child, recited by memory one of King's most famous speeches that lifted the crowd to its feet when he finished.

"What he (Walker) did is amazing. It's difficult

enough to memorize a speech that long without having to recite it in front of an audience, but he did it well," said Spc. Daniel Garcia, 3rd Battalion, 29th Field Artillery.

Also, to help stir the feelings and enthusiasm of the people at the Martin Luther King remembrance ceremony, Dennis Mose and Ensemble band performed several songs.

Born in Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 15, 1929, King struggled and fought to make his dream a reality of having "his four children live in a nation where they wouldn't be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character." He was a leader of the Black Civil Rights, a minister and held many other titles such as father and even prisoner. King's life came to an abrupt ending by a sniper's bullet April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tenn.

Although gone, King's legacy is not forgotten. Fort Carson command group hopes its community remembers King's work for peace and equality through non-violent methods and take an active role in helping someone search for positive aspects in life, according to Sgt. 1st Class Patricia A. McNeil, equal opportunity advisor, 7th Infantry Division and Team Units Equal Opportunity Office.



Lt. Col. Barrye L. Price, commander, 4th Personnel Services Battalion, speaks about Martin Luther King Jr.

Photo by Spc. Roy Gomez



Photo by Spc. Roy Gomez

Singers from the Dennis Mose and Ensemble provide part of the entertainment.



Photo by Spc. Roy Gomez

Dennis Mose, playing keyboard, conducts the ensemble while he and the band play their instruments.



Photo by Spc. Roy Gomez

Steven Walker recites by memory Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech during the MLK remembrance ceremony Thursday.

I Have a Dream...

Address at March on Washington
August 28, 1963. Washington, D.C.

I am happy to join with you today in what will go down in history as the greatest demonstration for freedom in the history of our nation. (Applause)

Five score years ago, a great American, in whose symbolic shadow we stand signed the Emancipation Proclamation. This momentous decree came as a great beacon light of hope to millions of Negro slaves who had been seared in the flames of withering injustice. It came as a joyous daybreak to end the long night of captivity.

But one hundred years later, we must face the tragic fact that the Negro is still not free. One hundred years later, the life of the Negro is still sadly crippled by the manacles of segregation and the chains of discrimination. One hundred years later, the Negro lives on a lonely island of poverty in the midst of a vast ocean of material prosperity. One hundred years later, the Negro is still languishing in the corners of American society and finds himself an exile in his own land. So we have come here today to dramatize an appalling condition.

In a sense we have come to our nation's capital to cash a check. When the architects of our republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and the declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir. This note was a promise that all men would be guaranteed the inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

It is obvious today that America has defaulted on this promissory note insofar as her citizens of color are concerned. Instead of honoring this sacred obligation, America has given the Negro people a bad check which has come back marked "insufficient funds." But we refuse to believe that the bank of justice is bankrupt. We refuse to believe that there are insufficient funds in the great vaults of opportunity of this nation. So we have come to cash this check — a check that will give us upon demand the riches of freedom and the security of justice. We have also come to this hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce urgency of now. This is no time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquil-

izing drug of gradualism. Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice. Now is the time to open the doors of opportunity to all of God's children. Now is the time to lift our nation from the quicksands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood.

It would be fatal for the nation to overlook the urgency of the moment and to underestimate the determination of the Negro. This sweltering summer of the Negro's legitimate discontent will not pass until there is an invigorating autumn of freedom and equality. Nineteen sixty-three is not an end, but a beginning. Those who hope that the Negro needed to blow off steam and will now be content will have a rude awakening if the nation returns to business as usual. There will be neither rest nor tranquility in America until the Negro is granted his citizenship rights. The whirlwinds of revolt will continue to shake the foundations of our nation until the bright day of justice emerges.

But there is something that I must say to my people who stand on the warm threshold which leads into the palace of justice. In the process of gaining our rightful place we must not be guilty of wrongful deeds. Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred.

We must forever conduct our struggle on the high plane of dignity and discipline. We must not allow our creative protest to degenerate into physical violence. Again and again we must rise to the majestic heights of meeting physical force with soul force. The marvelous new militancy which has engulfed the Negro community must not lead us to distrust of all white people, for many of our white brothers, as evidenced by their presence here today, have come to realize that their destiny is tied up with our destiny and their freedom is inextricably bound to our freedom. We cannot walk alone.

And as we walk, we must make the pledge that we shall march ahead. We cannot turn back. There are those who are asking the devotees of civil rights, "When will you be satisfied?" We can never be satisfied as long as our bodies, heavy with the fatigue of travel, cannot gain lodging in the motels of the highways and the hotels of the cities. We cannot be satisfied as long as the Negro's

basic mobility is from a smaller ghetto to a larger one. We can never be satisfied as long as a Negro in Mississippi cannot vote and a Negro in New York believes he has nothing for which to vote. No, no, we are not satisfied, and we will not be satisfied until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.

I am not unmindful that some of you have come here out of great trials and tribulations. Some of you have come fresh from narrow cells. Some of you have come from areas where your quest for freedom left you battered by the storms of persecution and staggered by the winds of police brutality. You have been the veterans of creative suffering. Continue to work with the faith that unearned suffering is redemptive.

Go back to Mississippi, go back to Alabama, go back to Georgia, go back to Louisiana, go back to the slums and ghettos of our northern cities, knowing that somehow this situation can and will be changed. Let us not wallow in the valley of despair.

I say to you today, my friends, that in spite of the difficulties and frustrations of the moment, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream.

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal."

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at a table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a desert state, sweltering with the heat of injustice and oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day the state of Alabama, whose governor's lips are presently dripping with the words of interposition and nullification, will be transformed into a situation where little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys

and white girls and walk together as sisters and brothers.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

This is our hope. This is the faith with which I return to the South. With this faith we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day.

This will be the day when all of God's children will be able to sing with a new meaning, "My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim's pride, from every mountainside, let freedom ring."

And if America is to be a great nation this must become true. So let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire. Let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York. Let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania!

Let freedom ring from the snowcapped Rockies of Colorado! Let freedom ring from the curvaceous peaks of California! But not only that; let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia!

Let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee! Let freedom ring from every hill and every molehill of Mississippi. From every mountainside, let freedom ring.

When we let freedom ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual, "Free at last! free at last! thank God Almighty, we are free at last!"



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Sports & Leisure

Lakers begin season with impressive win

by Walt Johnson
Mountaineer staff

The Fort Carson Lakers youth center 13-to-15 year old basketball team began its season with a resounding 30-9 victory over the Air Force Academy number one team Saturday at the Academy.

The Lakers used a strong aggressive defense to trigger its potent and balanced offense to the easy win for head coach Marie Woodley and assistant coach Harold Pate.

The Lakers and the Academy team played a close first half as each team was able to score some points on the break. The Lakers ran off to a 12-6 halftime lead featuring some clutch shooting, but more importantly some excellent pressure defense.

The Academy team looked tentative and unsure of itself as the Lakers applied pressure all over the court. The defensive pressure also allowed the Lakers to get out on the break and get some easy baskets to help them build up its six point halftime lead.

At halftime, Woodley made some adjustments to the way the Lakers were playing defense and offense and the results were evident right away.

The Lakers outscored the Academy team 7-0 in the third quarter to take a commanding 19-6 after three quarters.

Not satisfied with the big lead, the Lakers came out in the fourth quarter and applied even more pressure on the Academy. The Lakers outscored the Academy team 9-3 in the fourth quarter to earn its first victory of the season and make coach Woodley proud of the way the team used its defense to play a complete game.

"In practice, we focus on playing good, aggressive defense and the fundamentals of playing good defense. We teach our players how to play solid defense, in particular we teach them why they should not run to the ball before they box out the offensive player, eliminate their chance to get the ball, and then we go after the ball," Woodley said.

Watching Woodley and Pate on the sidelines you can see why the Lakers are so passionate about playing defense. The coaches consistently teach the young players where they need to be and how to be in the best position to play defense. That gives the players the confidence to go out and play aggressively.

"I'm so passionate about defense because I had a good coach in high school (Pamela Wimberly) that taught us to play defense with a passion. We have a good group of players who like to play defense," Woodley said.



Photos by Walt Johnson

Joshua Bredwell, Fort Carson Lakers youth center player, gets off a jump shot over the Air Force Academy number one team Saturday at the academy youth center.

Trojans lose to Pirates ...

Fountain-Fort Carson forward, LaQurisha Gray, looks to pass the ball against the St. Mary's Pirates defense Friday night at Fountain-Fort Carson High School. The Trojans dropped the basketball contest to St. Mary's 47-38 as the Trojans could not overcome an early Pirates lead.



On the Bench

Youth basketball season begins Saturday at post youth center

by Walt Johnson

Mountaineer staff

Well, I guess you all know why your humble servant is starting to get that spark back. After a month of dormant sports activity here, both the intramural and youth center sports program are getting into high gear.



Johnson

The youth center basketball season will begin Saturday with games scheduled

to begin at 9 a.m. at the youth center.

In the small gym, the 5-to-6 year olds will begin its season at 9 a.m. with team six facing team eight. At 10 a.m., team two will face team three. At 11 a.m., team one will face team five, and at noon team four will meet team seven. The 5-to-6 year old league will have eight teams playing this year.

In the big gym, the 7-to-9 year olds will also begin its season at 9 a.m.

Team seven and team one will get the action started at 9 a.m. At 10 a.m., team five will meet team eight. At 11 a.m., team three will meet team six,

and at noon team one will meet team four. Team nine will have the week off. The 7-to-9 year old group will have nine teams playing in this year's league.

In the 10-to-12 year old league, the teams will play games at both the post youth center and the Peterson Air Force Base youth center during the season.

At the post youth center Saturday, team two will meet team three at 1 p.m., and team one will meet team five at 2 p.m. At Peterson AFB team four will meet Peterson's team two at 1 p.m.

The Lakers 13-to-15 year old team will be in action at the Air Force Academy youth center at 1 p.m. when they meet the team from New Jerusalem.

For more information on the youth basketball season, contact the youth center at 526-1233.

For all the people who think adults don't care about the youth of today, I invite you to come to the youth center and see the support the young children get from staff, parents and friends.

One of the things that strikes me right away when I look at the roster of



This is the game plan ...

Ernest Simmons, right, and his assistant coach, Andrew Brandon, go over plays during their team's 5-to-6 year old practice session Friday at the youth center.

See Bench, Page 21



Photo by Walt Johnson

Getting ready for the season ...

Stephanie Meyers, left, youth center assistant sports director, and Jeannie McCormick, youth sports program assistant, get uniforms ready for the start of the youth basketball season Saturday.

Bench

From Page 20

coaches involved with the youth center basketball program is the number of husband and wife teams involved with the program. There are six couples coaching teams this year. Also noteworthy is the number of soldiers and family members who are coaching teams this year. If you ever wonder why the youth basketball program is so successful, look no further than the children who play the games and the adults who come out to guide them.

I got a chance to catch some intramural action Wednesday night at McKibben Physical Fitness Center, and it became evident that the new blood in the intramural program will make for some exciting action this year.

One player that caught my eye was Sami-Kaie Milling who tried to will his team to victory, but could not.

Milling was all over the court on offense and defense, once throwing down an amazing slam dunk. After the game Milling sent a message that his goal is not individual brilliance, but team accomplishment.

"The dunk felt good, but it doesn't mean anything because we didn't win the game. Anyone can look pretty, but that is style over substance, and I

am into substance," Milling said.

So the NFL playoffs round eight has been decided. This may be very interesting.

The most intriguing matchup for me is the Baltimore Ravens against the Pittsburgh Steelers Sunday in Pittsburgh. The Ravens and Steelers each won on the other team's field this year. Both teams have great defenses and questionable offenses. It should be a good one.

In the other games I look for the St. Louis Rams to defeat the Green Bay Packers, the Oakland Raiders to defeat the New England Patriots, and the Chicago Bears to beat Philadelphia.

Shaquille O'Neal finally had enough of the "hack-a-Shaq" defense being played in the league and tried to decapitate a member of the Chicago Bulls Friday.

I do not endorse violence of any kind, but I wonder what took O'Neal so long to get fed up with the tactic. The NBA will fine and suspend O'Neal for his outburst, but what about the people who have been mauling O'Neal for the past few years?

If you have a story idea for the sports section of the *Mountaineer*, please contact me at 443-9939.

Game of the Week

Defending champions begin season with two victories

by **Walt Johnson**
Mountaineer staff

The defending Fort Carson intramural basketball champions, 4th Engineers, have gotten out to a 2-0 start on the young season as they attempt to win the title for a third consecutive year.

Just defending a title is usually enough to challenge a team. If the 4th Engineers make it to the title game this year, it may have to rank as the most impressive achievement of the team's achievements over the past three years.

The Engineers have lost every player with the exception of Greg Smith, from a team that ruled the post the past two years.

Monday at McKibben Physical Fitness Center, the Engineers pushed its season record to 2-0 after a resounding 61-33 victory over a game that 43rd Area Support Group, Headquarters, Headquarters Company team had to play with just five players.

Maybe the defending champions thought the sight of five opposing players meant the team was in for an easy victory because the Engineers came out of the gates very slowly and

at one point actually trailed 18-16 in the first half.

The deficit seemed to be just what the Engineers needed to wake themselves up as they went on to outscore the opposition 45-15 to cruise to the easy victory.

After the game, 43rd ASG coach, Harold Marris, said the early moments of the game showed his team was competitive, but they couldn't keep up with the Engineers substitution rotation and superior quickness.

"We had a two-point lead but we started to get tired, and they started running on us. I thought we would play better even though we only had five people. What I really think hurt us, besides them having more depth, was our missing free throws. We missed about 10 free throws at crucial moments in the game," Marris said.

Engineers coach Irvin Brazil knows there is some work to do if they are to experience past success.

"We're coming off a long weekend and we had some trouble getting our offense going. We have the talent to win a lot this year, but it's much too early to know what we have. If we work hard, we can win," Brazil said.



photo by Walt Johnson
4th Engineer players Andre Miller, 15, and Jovan Wilson, 12, go for a rebound as 43rd ASG's Jesse Camp, right, looks on.

Mountaineer Sports Spotlight



Photo by Sgt. William Wilczewski

Carrying the torch ...

Spc. Douglas Sharp, World Class Athlete Program, Ft. Carson, takes hold of the Olympic torch in Louisville, Ky. Sharp, a 32-year-old Army bobsledder, carried the torch for a tenth-of-a-mile as it makes its way to Salt Lake City, Utah. Sharp also hopes to earn a shot at Olympic gold as a member of the men's USA II Bobsled Team.

"I'm representing the boys (in Afghanistan) defending our freedom." I have the fortunate opportunity to be in the states representing freedom," he said.

Sharp garnered several top-notch athletic honors as a football player in his hometown of Jeffersonville, Ind., and as a pole vaulter in college. "This is the icing on the cake," he said. "When you can take all those athletic (accomplishments) and add something like the torch to it, that's just something I can tell my kids about."

Sharp is one of 11,000 runners nationwide who have or will participate in the 13,500-mile torch relay, which started in Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 4.

Mountaineer Athlete of the Week



Photo by Walt Johnson

Cheering for our team ...

Fountain-Fort Carson cheerleader, LaQuanna Pittman, left, and her teammates, cheer on the Fountain-Fort Carson women's varsity team Friday night at Fountain-Fort Carson High School.

Focus on the Family: Welcome Center

Story and photos
by Nel Lampe
Mountaineer staff



The Welcome Center is prominently near the entrance of Focus on the Family campus, just off Briargate Parkway.

by Nel Lampe
Mountaineer staff

Now that the Children’s Museum at the Citadel Shopping Center is no more, what’s a parent to do when “cabin fever” sets in after a few dreary winter days?

Focus on the Family’s Welcome Center is one of the Pikes Peak area’s best kept secrets. The center has a wealth of indoor activities of interest to children, ranging from interactive computers to video watching. There are books to read, puppets to bring to life and costumes to wear. There’s a corkscrew slide. And snacks are available nearby when the munchies set in.

Focus on the Family is a nondenominational Christian ministry which is headquartered in Colorado Springs. The organization is perhaps best known for radio broadcasts made by Dr. James Dobson which focus on Christian and family issues. The radio programs are heard around the world.

The organization also has an animated television program, “Adventures in Odyssey,” featuring such characters as Mr. Whitaker, Dylan, Jesse and Sherman. The Odyssey series is sometimes shown on Public Broadcasting

System and other networks, and many children are familiar with the characters. Episodes are sold in the bookstore online for about \$15, as well as in some Christian bookstores. The Web site is www.family.org.

Focus on the Family also publishes inspirational books as well as books on marriage, parenting and family. Several magazines are published which are of interest to single parents, teens, children or parents, which are stocked in the large bookstore adjacent to the Welcome Center. In addition to the many Focus on the Family books, magazines and tapes sold, there is a large selection of greeting cards, gifts, souvenirs and T-shirts. Children may be interested in using the playhouse in the bookstore while parents browse.

Between the guest relations desk and the bookshop is the coffee shop, “Solid Grounds.” The coffee shop has a selection of coffee drinks such as lattes, cappuccinos, Espressos and regular coffees which are very reasonably priced, with additional charge for the usual “extras.” Cookies to accompany the coffee are also sold.



Cliff Kelley takes the stage as ‘Mr. Whitaker’ in the Discovery Emporium.

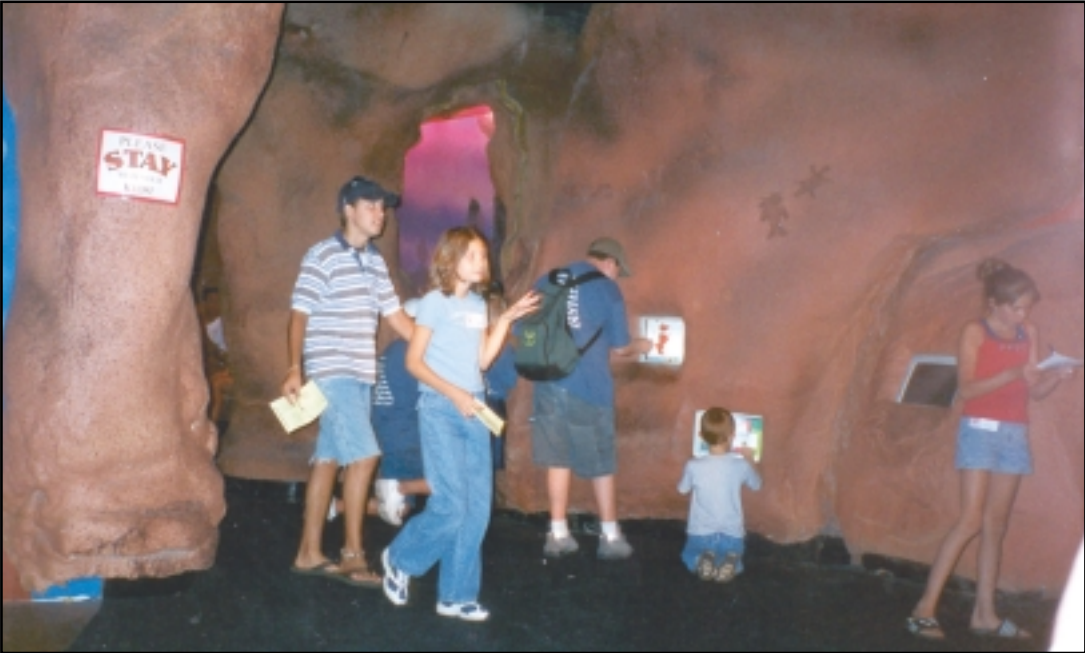
Nearby are two art galleries. One is filled with art made by Dobson’s father. There’s also the G. Harvey Gallery, where lithographs and paintings by the artist are displayed. The art work was created for Focus on the Family.

Make the bookstore the first or last stop on your visit. Depending upon your arrival time, there are a couple of options.

If you’re arriving about mid-day, try to arrive before noon to see a showing of “The Last Chance Detectives.” The video is a Focus on the Family production which is shown at noon in the 172-seat theater. The video features a group of pre-teens who solve mysteries.

Give yourself enough time to sign in at the Welcome Center and put on a guest name tag.

Although it may be hard to believe, there is no catch for families to use the Welcome Center. All that’s required is to sign the guest register. You are not placed on a mailing list and there are no hidden charges nor obligations.



Some visitors engage in a scavenger hunt while others enjoy the interactive computers in the cave-like setting at Whit’s End.

Happy
Discoveries



Places to see in the Pikes Peak area.

Focus

From Page 26

Friendly people at the Guest Relations desk get you started on the self-guided tour. There's complimentary coffee, restrooms and comfortable chairs. The lobby is filled with computers, audio equipment and other interactive displays. Visitors can learn about the Focus on the Family's outreach locations and its mission and use the interactive displays or catch a video being shown in "Kids' Matinee."

A 20-minute video, "Coming Home," is shown in the theater every half hour from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and 1 to 4:30 p.m. It takes a historic look at the ministry of Focus on the Family.

After visiting the lobby and seeing a video in the theater, take the children to visit the newly expanded "Whit's End," which has a climbing apparatus for younger children, a B-17 replica for visitors to explore or pretend to fly and several interactive computers. There's a video cave with pillows and seats for comfortable viewing of Odyssey episodes.

Older children seem to enjoy taking a scavenger hunt. Adventurers pick up a list of a dozen items hidden in plain view throughout Whit's End. Armed with the list and a map of the play area, spend a happy half-hour or so searching for the items.

The favorite attraction in Whit's End is the three-story twisting slide called "A-Bend-A-Go." The 75-foot long slide may be used by anyone 43 and a half inches tall up to 5 feet 9 inches tall. Eager sliders grab a "sack" to enclose their feet and socks for their hands and arms, and climb the three flights of stairs to enter the slide, which empties into the cave area.

Also in Whit's End is a soda shop with very reasonable prices for a light snack menu. From 11 to 2 p.m., a lunch special includes a hot dog, slice of pizza or a dish of nacho chips and cheese, with small drink, chips and a cookie for \$2.99.

Soft drinks, ice cream bars, soft ice cream, root beer floats and a selection of snacks are available throughout the day, all at reasonable prices. Enjoy refreshments at the tables and chairs provided in the soda shop or on the terrace outside.

Focus on the Family recently expanded the play area. When tired of the cave activities or the

slide, children can take the secret passageway to the newly expanded "Discovery Emporium" for more fun. Dozens of puppets are available for impromptu puppet shows on the stage, with rows of seats for the parent-audience. Would be actors and actresses can choose a costume and go on another stage. The costumes include the characters from the "Adventures in Odyssey" film series and children may create their own episode.

Another corner holds a small library and carpeted platforms for curling up with a good book. Model trains run around the room and a child-size train provides a place for board games or reading.

A recent addition to the Discovery Emporium is a recording studio. Visitors may read a radio script, add their own sound effects and for a small fee, have a CD recording made.

Mr. Whit's office is next door, and may also be visited.

Focus on the Family is one of the top tourist sites in the local area, drawing about 200,000 people each year. The Welcome Center is quite busy during summer months but is less crowded in the winter.

The national headquarters of the organization formerly was in Pomona, Calif. The organization moved in 1991 to the newly constructed site in Colorado Springs. Supporters of the ministry thought a visitor center was needed, and thanks to a generous gift, the Welcome Center became a reality three years later.

Diane Ingolia, hostess supervisor at Guest Relations of the Welcome Center said the Welcome Center has a birthday party room which may be reserved for no charge. There is no requirement to serve food purchased from the ice cream parlor, but if desired, such arrangements can be made. To reserve the birthday room, call 531-3400, ext. 1905. "We like to see kids have fun," she said.

Entrance to the Welcome Center, Whit's End and the Discovery Emporium is free. Winter hours for the Welcome Center are Monday through Friday 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m.

The Welcome Center is always closed Sunday. It is also closed major holidays.

Summer hours are extended until 5:30 p.m. on weekdays and until 5 p.m. Saturdays. Guided tours of the headquarters are given Monday through Saturday, at 9, 10 and 11 a.m., and 1, 2, 3 and 4 p.m. (until 3 p.m. on Saturday). The tour takes 45 minutes and allows a look at the Focus on the Family mission, including a stop at the broadcast studio. People can sign up to be in the studio audience with Guest Relations and can make arrangements for a tour by calling 531-3400, ext. 1905. This tour may be more suitable for older children and adults..

The administration building cafeteria is open to the public Monday through Friday. Breakfast is served from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Lunch is available from 11 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.

Focus on the Family is located off Briargate Parkway, at 8685 Explorer Drive, reached from Interstate 25 going north. Take exit 151 and follow the signs. The Welcome Center is in front of the huge headquarters building.

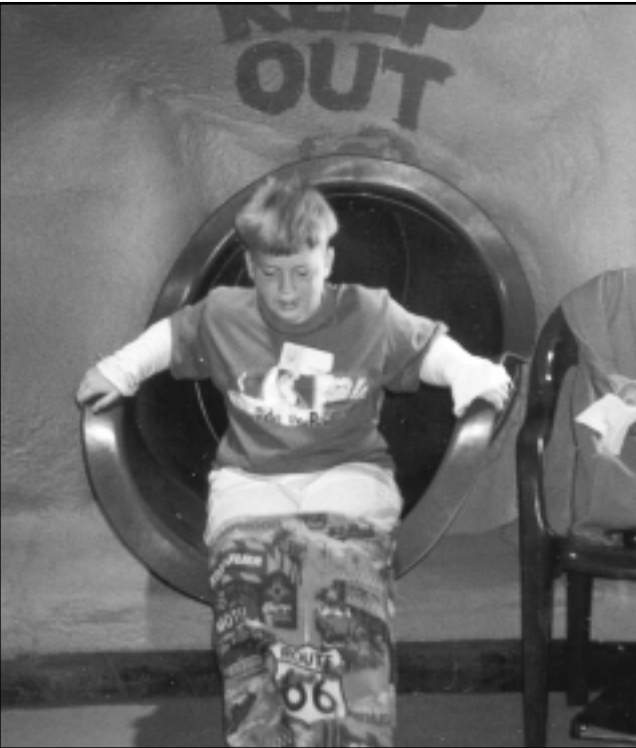
Parking is available in nearby parking lots.



Katie Kelley engages a puppet in conversation in the Discovery Emporium puppet theater.



Visitors take the stairs to the top of the three-flight twisting slide.



Riders come out of the slide into Whit's End.



A replica of a B-17 aircraft is available for inspection or imaginary flights.

Just the Facts

- Travel time 30 minutes
- For ages Families
- Type Visitor center
- Fun factor ★★★★★ (Out of 5 stars)
- Wallet damage free
 - \$ = Less than \$20
 - \$\$ = \$21 to \$40
 - (Based on a family of four)



Disney discounts

Walt Disney World Resort and the Disneyland Resort offer free admission into Disney theme parks and discounts for servicemembers. Through April 30, active U.S. military personnel may receive one complimentary seven-day ticket during "Disney's Armed Forces Salute." Servicemembers are also eligible for room discounts and 50 percent discounts for up to five tickets for family members. For more information, call (407) 939-7424.

Universal Studios salutes heroes

To salute active U.S. military personnel, along with police, firefighters and rescue personnel, Universal Studios will give free admission to these "American heroes" at Orlando's two theme parks: Universal Studios Florida and Islands of Adventure, the Orlando waterpark, Wet n' Wild and Universal Studios Hollywood. Up to five family members may receive a 50 percent discount when accompanying the free ticket holder. Eligible honorees need to present ID at the theme park box office and turnstile, along with family members. Tickets must be used within seven days of issue. For further information, contact Jim Yeager, (818) 777-1047.

Ski discounts

Through a partnership between the Air Force and Keystone Ski Resort, soldiers and Army civilians are eligible for discounted rooms and ski lift tickets through a program called "Rocky Mountain Blue." Lift ticket prices under the program vary, but range from \$26 for a daily ticket in the early and late season to \$49 during the holidays. Call The Rocky Mountain Blue office at 333-2802 for more information or go online at www.rockymountainblue.com. Other discounts apply to ski and snowboard school, nursery, rental and food outlets. Lodging discounts are available through Colorado R and R, www.coloradorandr.com.

SnoFest 2002

The **annual military snow sports weekend** is Feb. 22 to 24 at Keystone Resort. Snofest is for ser-

vicemembers and families from the Air Force Academy, Fort Carson, F.E. Warren, Buckley, Peterson, Shriever and Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Bases. Activities range from a cardboard derby to sleigh rides; ski and snowboard racing to figure skating. Good prices on lodging, lift tickets and passports for free activities are available. Contact the Information, Tickets and Registration office at 526-5366 for reservations or more information. Youths need to sign up at the Youth Center, 526-2680 for SnoFest youth activities.

Open Cockpit Day

The Pueblo Weisbrod Aircraft Museum at the Pueblo Memorial Airport hosts open cockpit day Jan. 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The featured aircraft is the Douglas C-47, used in World War II as a para-trooper, cargo and transport plane. The Pueblo airport is east of Pueblo on Highway 50.

Theater

"My Fair Lady" is in the Air Force Academy's Arnold Hall Theater Feb. 2, at 3 or 7:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$40 and are available at the box office, 333-4497, or at Ticketmaster 520-9090.

B.B. King is set for the Air Force Academy Feb. 16. Call 333-4497 for tickets.

"Cabaret" is at the Pikes Peak Center 190 S. Cascade, Feb. 13 and 14, as part of the Broadway in Colorado Springs series. Call the box office at 520-SHOW or Ticketmaster at 520-9090.

"The Taffetas" opens at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center Feb. 8, continuing through Feb. 24. Performances are Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$22 in advance at the box office, 634-5583 or \$25 at the door. The musical is a lighthearted look at the mood and music of the 1950s.

Brass band

The Fountain Creek Brass Band presents its annual "Heritage" concert, a performance of patriotic and traditional music, at the Benet Hill Center, 2577 N. Chelton Rd. The performance is Feb. 17 at 3 p.m., and entry is a donation.

Ride the train

All El Paso Country residents are eligible for a 50 percent discount on the **Royal Gorge Route** through February. The train departs the Santa Fe

Depot in Canon City at noon every Saturday and Sunday. Call (888) Rails4U or go online www.royalgorgeroute.com. Reservations are suggested; present an ID at the station.

Denver theater

"The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas," with Ann-Margaret, runs through Feb. 3 at the Buell Theatre in downtown Denver. Tickets start at \$25, call (800) 641-1222 for information.

Comedy

Jeff Foxworthy and Bill Engvall are at the Colorado Springs World Arena Feb. 7, at 7:30 p.m.

National stock show

National Western Stock Show, in Denver for 96 years, includes traditional races, livestock and horse shows, barn tours, sheep-shearing contests as well as rodeos, bull riders, wild west shows, dancing horses and draft-horse performances. Tickets are available at (888) 551-5004 for the stockshow which runs through Jan. 27 at the coliseum on Humboldt Street off Interstate 70. There is an extra charge for horse shows and rodeos.

Live bear performance

Jim Henson's "Bear in the Big Blue House Live" is in the Pikes Peak Center Jan. 24 to 27. Tickets opening night are \$11; other performances' tickets begin at \$12. Call 520-9090 for tickets. The Pikes Peak Center is at 190 S. Cascade.

Lazer Vaudeville

"Lazer Vaudeville" is a vaudeville show for the entire family, Jan. 26 at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. at Sango de Cristo Arts Center, 210 N. Santa Fe Ave. in Pueblo. Tickets are \$5 each; call (719) 543-0134.

Symphony

Colorado Springs Symphony presents **"Best of the Beatles"** Feb. 1 and 2 at 8 p.m., at the Pikes Peak Center, 190 S. Cascade. Tickets begin at \$10; call 520-SHOW.

More symphony

"Peter and the Wolf" is set for Feb. 3 at 2:30 p.m., as part of the Colorado Springs Symphony family classic series. Call 520-SHOW for tickets.

Happenings

Pvt. Murphy

by Mark Baker



Program Schedule for Fort Carson cable Channel 10, today to Jan. 25.

Mountain Post Magazine: Stories on the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry deployment, food inspectors and Lt. Col. Tim Parks. Airs at 7 a.m., 10 a.m., noon, 3 p.m. and midnight.

Army Newswatch: 2001, year in review. Airs at 7:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 12:30 a.m.

Navy/Marine Corps News: includes stories on carrying the Olympic torch, tattoos and anti-terrorism training. Airs at 8 a.m., 1 p.m., 8 p.m. and 1 a.m.

Air Force News: Discussions with the Secretary of the Air Force, Air Force Chief of Staff and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force. Airs at 8:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 8:30 p.m. and 1:30 a.m.

Channel 9 daily broadcasts SCOLA, foreign language news broadcasts. Access the schedule at the Fort Carson Web site.

If you have comments on Channel 10 programming or wish to coordinate a broadcast on Channel 10, please contact Chief of Command Information at 526-1241 or via e-mail at

CommandInfo@carson.army.mil.

Program times will be published in the *Mountaineer* provided coordination is made one week prior to publication.

If you have ideas for Mountain Post Magazine, please phone 526-1253 or e-mail MountainPostMagazine@carson.army.mil.

If you wish to have a training videotape shown on Channel 9 only, contact the Regional Training Support Center at 526-5111.

For additions to the Community Calendar, please submit a clean, typewritten copy of the information to the Public Affairs Office, room 2180, building 1550, Fort Carson, CO 80913 or fax it to 526-1021 no later than the Friday before airing time.